

Fresno High - Tower District - West of 99 - West Shaw - Quigley Lions

District 1 News!

2020 - EDITION 2

Esmeralda★Soria

Fresno City Councilmember District 1



Making Neighborhoods Safer & Stronger!

Please feel free to contact our office with questions or concerns
at **(559) 621-7817** or **District1@fresno.gov**.



@Esmeralda_Soria



Councilmember
Esmeralda Soria



esmeraldasoria

PAID FOR BY SORIA FOR CITY COUNCIL 2018
FPPC #1402344
1341 N Lucerne Lane, Fresno, CA 93728

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMEMBER ESMERALDA SORIA

Dear resident,

This year has been a busy one in District 1 as we continue to serve the community and work through the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout this pandemic, we have strived to keep you informed about COVID-19 as well as current with our District 1 updates. I want to thank you for your many emails and input while attending our many virtual community meetings this year. Your voices are weighed into decisions I make while serving the community and navigating our way through the reopening of our community and strengthening the economy.

This year, we learned to adjust our ways of communication with each other by holding 10 virtual community meetings. The virtual meetings which provided our community with important District 1 updates on public safety, COVID-19 resources, and planned public works projects. We also asked your virtual input to design a neighborhood park and design a dedicated bike lane. To assist local businesses secure contracts with the City of Fresno, I co-sponsored an online procurement workshop to educate local small businesses.

To assist our community with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we held over fifteen events throughout District 1 providing 3,130 free grocery boxes, no-cost COVID-19 testing and flu shots to thousands of residents.

Please feel free to contact our office with questions or concerns at (559) 621-7817 or District1@fresno.gov.

Sincerely,



ESMERALDA SORIA
Fresno City Councilmember
District 1



Graduation gifts for our Central and Fresno Unified Seniors.



Ceremony for the Esther Padilla Memorial Highway.



Groundbreaking of the Fresno City College Parking Structure.

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Annual Event Highlights of 2020

DISTRICT 1 HOLIDAY TOY DISTRIBUTION



Councilmember Soria partnered with the Fresno Firefighters Local 753 for the 2020 Holiday Toy Distribution and delivered toys, a box of groceries and a Vallarta gift card to 30 local families from Steinbeck, Heaton and Fremont Elementary Schools as part of her annual tradition bringing Holiday Cheer to our District 1 families.



BLACKSTONE & MCKINLEY TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT GROUNDBREAKING



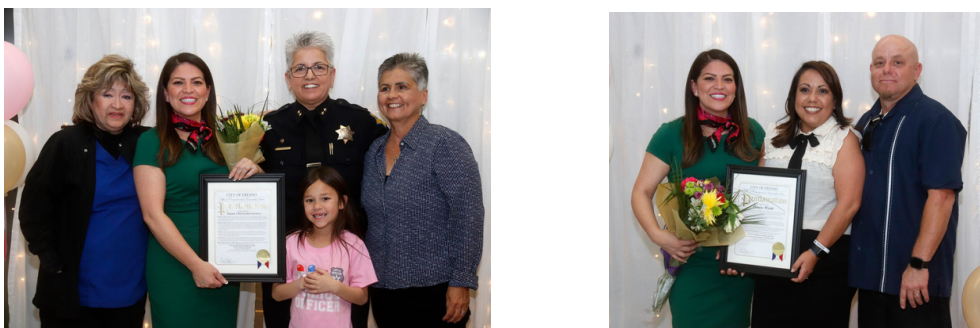
Integrated Community Development, Corporation for Better Housing, City of Fresno, AHSC, HCD, CalHFA, SJVAPCD, Alliant Capital, and CTCAC partnered to build 88 affordable housing units and 9,300 square feet of commercial space. 7,500 square feet to be leased by Clinica Sierra Vista for a medical clinic and 1,800 square feet dedicated to the City of Fresno for a Neighborhood Senior Center.



DISTRICT 1 WOMEN OF THE YEAR CEREMONY



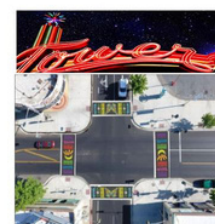
Sixth annual celebration of Women's History Month. Honored seven women in District 1 in the categories of Arts & Culture, Business, Community Advocacy, Education, Health & Wellness, and Public Safety.



TOWER DISTRICT BEAUTIFICATION PLAN



Launched Phase I: Tower District Clean-up, a pilot 6 month, weekly litter pick up and sidewalk pressure wash program along Olive Avenue from Palm to Blackstone. Phase II will include 8 artistic trash cans, upgrade of Overhead String Lights to LED, and continued maintenance of the Crosswalk Art. Phase III is the \$1.3 million in investments for the Olive Avenue Streetscape project that will include sidewalk bulb-outs, new high visibility sidewalks, and landscaping.



2020/21 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

CITY-WIDE INVESTMENTS

\$10,000,000 - Additional funding to the PARCS Department Budget for park renovations and new green space

\$1,000,000 - Funding to implement the recommendations of the Fresno Commission on Police Reform

\$2,000,000 - Increasing safety by adding 42 additional firefighter positions and funding a training school

\$100,000 - To establish a Business Façade Improvement Program for small businesses along the Tower District and Kings Canyon Corridor

\$100,000 - Funding for the City of Fresno Youth Commission

\$100,000 - For Youth Employment in the City of Fresno



You have shared your concerns and requests for improving the City's efforts in improving our neighborhoods, funding new infrastructure, providing opportunities for our Youth and looking at solutions to reduce our community's homelessness. Here are this year's investments.

DISTRICT 1 INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **\$480,000** Design of **Train Quiet Zone** (Final two crossings Shields and Blackstone/McKinley) *\$580,000 will be allocated in FY22 completing Phase II of the project.
- **\$150,000** Furnishing and program staff for a new McKinley & Blackstone **Neighborhood Senior Center**
- **\$50,000** Develop a housing masterplan for **Blackstone & McKinley**
- **\$100,000** For design of **Echo and Weldon Triangle Park**



DISTRICT 1 PUBLIC WORKS INVESTMENTS

Polk Avenue - \$1,917,200

- Polk Widening (Shaw - Gettysburg)

Ashlan Avenue - \$580,300

- Ashlan Widening (Polk - Cornelia)

- Ashlan Overlay (Valentine - West)

New Traffic Signals and Left Turn (LT) Additions

- \$6,000 (Shields & Weber)

- \$60,600 (Harrison & Shields)

- \$644,600 (Clinton & Angus)

- \$742,700 (Gettysburg & Polk)

- \$10,300 (Dakota & West (LT)

- \$119,100 (Hughes & Shields (LT)

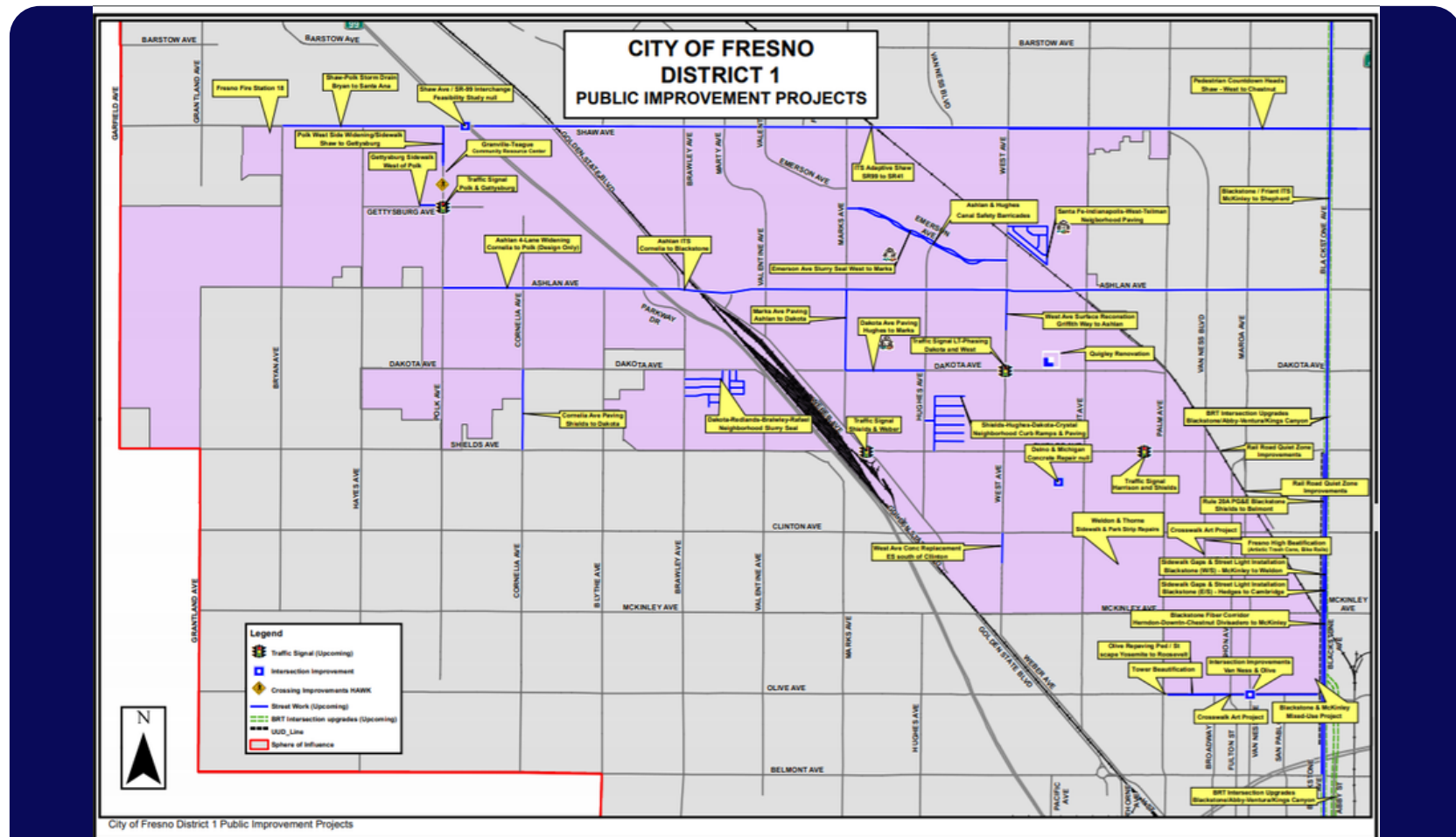
Marks Avenue - \$576,500

- Street Paving (Ashlan - Dakota)

\$100,000 for District 1 Sidewalk Repairs

District 1 Improvements

District 1 Public Improvements Sidewalk Repairs, Traffic Lights, Road Repairs, Tree Trimming, Potholes, Road Safety Improvements.



ONGOING IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN DISTRICT 1

Look for these upcoming Public Works improvement projects in District 1:

Maintaining and renewing infrastructure in our community supports neighborhood revitalization, economic development, public safety, sustainability and air quality. Councilmember Soria is happy to announce the following projects have been funded in District 1.

- \$352,600** - Shaw Avenue Street Overlay: Blythe to Brawley Avenue
- \$846,500** - Shields Avenue Street Overlay: Blackstone to Palm Avenue
- \$635,200** - Clinton Avenue Street Overlay: Blackstone to Maroa Avenue
- \$150,000** - Van Ness Blvd. Repaving: Clinton to Shields Ave. Northbound
- \$142,000** - Fairmont at Polk Ave: Neighborhood Street Reconstruction
- \$30,000** - Cornelia and Ashlan Area: Tree Trimming
- \$40,000** - Normal Street: Echo to Wishon Concrete Repair
- \$126,000** - Highway City: Polk Avenue from Shaw to Gettysburg Avenue Engineering Study

Approved in 2020 Fiscal Year

- \$2,455,500** - Street Widening (Polk, Shaw-Gettysburg) (Ashlan, Polk-Cornelia)
- \$1,583,300** - New Traffic Signals and Left Turn Additions
- \$618,500** - Street Resurfacing
- \$100,000** - District 1 Sidewalk Repairs

Total improvements \$7,079,600

District 1 Events Serving the Community

2020 Calendar

January

- Tower District Beautification Plan Launch

February

- Blackstone & McKinley Transit Oriented Development Groundbreaking

March

- District 1 Women of the Year Ceremony

May

- Ovation for Frontline Workers
- Virtual Community Meeting (English)
- Virtual Community Meeting (Spanish)
- Free Face Mask Distribution at Fresno City College
- Farm to Family Program Launch
- Free Face Mask Distribution to Healthcare Workers

July

- Virtual Coffee & Conversation
- Palm Avenue Bikeway Virtual Community Meeting
- Free COVID-19 Testing at Sikh Institute
- Free COVID-19 Testing at Lions Park
- Second Virtual Coffee & Conversation

September

- Labor Day COVID-19 Testing at Fresno City College
- Milburn & Dakota Park Virtual Community Meeting
- Third Virtual Coffee & Conversation

October

- Free Grocery Distribution at Heaton Elementary
- Free Grocery Distribution at Steinbeck Elementary
- Fourth Virtual Coffee & Conversation
- Free COVID testing, flu-shots, and groceries at Williams Elementary
- Free COVID testing, flu-shots, and groceries at the Sikh Institute
- Second Palm Avenue Bikeway Meeting
- Esther Padilla Highway Naming Ceremony
- Free Online Procurement Workshop for Businesses

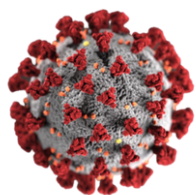
November

- Community Blood Drive and Face Mask Distribution at Gazebo Gardens
- Free Grocery Distribution at Steinbeck Elementary
- Second Milburn & Dakota Park Virtual Meeting
- Free Grocery Distribution at Fremont Elementary
- Free Turkey Giveaway, flu-shots, and COVID testing at Fresno City College

December

- Free Business Face Mask Distribution
- Free Tamale Kit Giveaway, flu-shots, and COVID testing at Fresno City College
- Free Food Distribution at Steinbeck Elementary
- Eighth Annual District 1 Toy Distribution





CITY OF FRESNO COVID-19 CARES ACT INVESTMENTS

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT \$50 MILLION

\$20 MILLION FOR HEALTH CARE

- 1** \$10 Million for permanent Health Clinics in Southwest and Southeast Fresno.
- 2** \$5 Million for UCSF's Mobile Heal COVID-19 Testing and Health screening in south Fresno (3 mobile units).
- 3** \$5 Million for additional testing and contact tracing (partnerships with CBOs).

\$17.25 MILLION FOR HOUSING, NON-PROFITS, ARTS, and FOOD ASSISTANCE

- 1** \$5 Million for HOUSING RETENTION GRANTS in partnership with local CBOs provide \$1,500 and up to \$3,000 for housing grants to prevent evictions.
- 2** \$1,350,000 for Museums, Performing Arts Theaters and Individual Artists.
- 3** \$500,000 local non-profits who provide services for Children and Youth, Community Development, Mental Health, Employment Training, and Veterans.
- 4** \$6.4 Million for FOOD ASSISTANCE provides grants to CBOs to assist with food purchasing and food delivery to vulnerable populations including Seniors.
- 5** \$4 Million for HOMELESS TRANSITIONAL HOUSING that will allow city to acquire hotels/motels to use for transitional and supportive housing for the homeless.

\$7.9 MILLION FOR LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES

- 1** \$7.4 Million for SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS these are \$5,000 to \$10,000 grants to support small businesses impacted by COVID-19.
- 2** \$500,000 for MICRO FARMERS FARM TO FAMILY PROGRAM these are \$1,000 grants to small micro farmers to purchase their produce and donate it to families in need.

\$5 MILLION FOR UPGRADES & CHILD CARE

- 1** \$2.7 Million for UPGRADING AND REHABBING PARKS, COMMUNITY CENTERS, and LOCAL MUSEUMS Cover upgrades to these facilities to meet COVID-19 safety protocols.
- 2** \$2.3 Million for CHILDCARE VOUCHERS Child care assistance to essential workers and vulnerable populations.

Resources

311 CALL CENTER

311 is available for reporting issues to all departments in the City of Fresno. The mission of the City of Fresno 311 Center is to provide a link for non-emergency communication between the citizens and the City.

The City of Fresno 311 Center staff is available Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 6 PM. You may report an issue 24/7 via (559) 621-CITY (2489), and the FresGo app.

DISTRICT 1 STAFF - WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU!



Terry Cox
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(559) 621-7810
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Council Assistant
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Itzi Robles
Council Assistant
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Report issues in District 1, request proclamations, certificates, or to be added to our listserv to be notified about upcoming events and community meetings.

District 1 Office
Phone: (559) 621-7817
Email: District1@fresno.gov
Website: <https://www.fresno.gov/citycouncil/district-1/>

For appointments, event invites, and policy questions, please contact Chief of Staff, Terry Cox at (559) 621-7810 or via email at Terry.Cox@fresno.gov.

DISTRICT 1 PAID INTERNSHIPS

How to Apply:
Return the following items

1. Complete the Councilmember Esmeralda Soria’s Council Internship Program Application
2. Provide proof of enrollment, including the number of semester units completed and grade point average.
3. Include a letter of interest.
4. Submit 2 References (cannot be a relative).

Email: Terry.Cox@fresno.gov (application packet must be sent in PDF)
Mail: Attn: Terry Cox — 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno CA 93721

COVID-19 UPDATES

To see recent City of Fresno updates regarding **COVID-19** please visit:

<https://www.fresno.gov/coronavirus/>

FRESGO APP



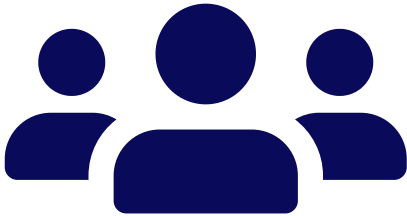
Download the **FresGO App** to report issues within the City of Fresno.

Report things such as:

- Graffiti
- Potholes
- Sidewalk Repairs
- Street Trees
- Code Violations
- Parking Enforcement
- Illegal Dumping
- Water Waste
- Illegal Fireworks
- Traffic Signals



GET INVOLVED!



These committees serve District One.

- **District One Project Review Committee**
- **Tower District Design and Review Committee**
- **The Youth Commission**
- **Young Councilmember Program**
- **Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

Call our office for vacancies or apply online at:

<https://www.fresno.gov/cityclerk/boards-commissions/board-commission-application/>